REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Examiner states that the disclosure is objected to because in the Brief Description of the Drawings, only FIGURE 2 is recited whereas the drawings show Figures 2A – 2C. Enclosed herewith is a replacement paragraph in which the Brief Description of the Drawings has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-13 and 15-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hesson, prior art of record. The Examiner states that FIGURE 4 of Hesson shows an output buffer having crowbar current eliminated comprising a plurality of multiplexer circuits (41, 42), a common input note, an upper output node, and a lower output node, wherein the plurality of MUXs are configured to generate output signals upper node and lower node in response to an input signal at the input node such that during an input signal transition at the input node, a control electrode for the UOP and the LOP are driven towards opposite voltage supplies.

We can not agree that Hesson anticipates the present invention or renders the obvious. In Hesson, referring to FIGURE 4, the multiplexes respond to two (2) signals, one of which is the input signal (IN), the second is the output enable signal (OE) which is applied to the multiplexes (41, 42), through the buffers (44, 45). See, for example, Col. 5, LL 57-66. Furthermore, as recited at Col. 5, LL 47-50, even by utilizing the second signal, the circuit does not absolutely guarantee the elimination of the crowbar current. Those skilled in the art recognize that it is critical to have the timing between the input signal (IN) and the output enable signal (OE) exactly in sync in order for the circuit to eliminate the crowbar current. This is technically more complex than the present invention which only requires transitions at the input signal to guarantee that both transistors will not be on at the same time to generate the crowbar current.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 10, 11 and 13 have been amended in order to recite this feature.

Accordingly, Applicants believe the Application, as amended, is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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